

Message Text

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21 S13

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 SS-15 NSC-10 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-16 EUR-25 NEA-10

RSC-01 PM-07 INR-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 L-03 PRS-01 SPC-03

INRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 IO-15 DRC-01 /142 W

----- 098272

O R 290355Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BANGUI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BERN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

EKUESBA/AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES IMMEDIATE 099

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL HONG KONG IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MANILA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY OSLO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY RABAT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY RANGOON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE

SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7593

AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE IMMEDIATE

CZEHTP/AMEMBASSY TAIPEI IMMEDIATE 4367

AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TUNIS IMMEDIATE

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AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
USDEL JEC PARIS UNN
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY WARSAW

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 17180

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MARR, VN, VS, MILI
SUBJECT: GVN NOTE TO PARIS PARTICIPANTS

REF: SAIGON 17101 (NOTAL)

SUMMARY: THERE FOLLOWS TEXT OF NOTE DATED SEPTEMBER 27 FROM THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM (GVN) TO THE PARTIES TO THE ACT OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON VIETNAM CONCERNING THE COMMUNIST ATTACK ON THE RANGER BASE AT LE MINH. THE NOTE IS BEING DELIVERED TO ADDRESSEE EMBASSIES IN SAIGON ON SEPTEMBER 28 AND WILL BE MADE PUBLIC AT 1000 A.M., MONDAY, OCTOBER 1, SAIGON TIME. THE GVN HAS ASKED US TO HELP IN GETTING THE TEXT OF THIS NOTE TO GVN MISSIONS SO THAT IT CAN BE RELEASED WORLD-WIDE AT ABOUT THE SAME TIME. ACTION REQUESTED. ACTION ADDRESSES ARE REQUESTED TO DELIVER COPIES OF THIS TEXT AND THE ABOVE INFORMATION TO THE GVN MISSIONS IN THEIR HOST COUNTRIES UPON RECEIPT. END SUMMARY

1. BEGIN TEXT: NOTE: NO. 389/GNG - THE ACTING MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM PRESENTS HIS COMPLIMENTS TO THE PARTIES TO THE ACT OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON VIET-NAM, SIGNED IN PARIS ON 2ND MARCH 1973, AND HAS THE HONOR TO CALL THE ATTENTION OF THE PARTIES TO THE FOLLOWING.

2. ON 22ND SEPTEMBER 1973, BEGINNING AT 1500 HOURS, A REGIMENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM LAUNCHED A LARGE SCALE ATTACK AGAINST LE MINH, A MILITARY BASE OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM, 37 KILOMETERS WEST OF THE PROVINCIAL CITY OF PLEIKU, REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM. THE ATTACK WAS PRECEDED BY HEAVY ARTILLERY FIRE WHICH STARTED ON 21ST SEPTEMBER AT 1350 HOURS.

THE LE MINH BASE WHICH HAS BEEN CONTINUOUSLY HELD BY THE
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GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM SINCE 1964 WAS DEFENDED BY THE REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM 80TH RANGERS BATTALION. EVENTUALLY, THE BASE WAS OVERWHELMED BY THE OTHER SIDE'S NUMERICALLY SUPERIOR FORCES.

3. THE ATTACKING FORCES AGAINST THE LE MINH BASE HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED AS THE 26TH REGIMENT OF THE NORTH VIETNAMESE ARMY 320TH DIVISION. IT WAS SUPPORTED BY HEAVY ARTILLERY AND RUSSIAN-MADE T-54 TANK

UNITS.

4. THEREFORE THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT THE ATTACK WAS DETERMINED UPON AND CARRIED OUT WITH THE AIM OF DESTROYING A MILITARY BASE OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM AND EXTENDING THE TROOPS STATIONING ZONE OF THE SELF-STYLED "PRG".

THIS TYPICAL AND SYSTEMATIC BREACH OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT COULD ALSO BE SEEN AS A PRELUDE TO A NEW WAVE OF ATTACKS BY THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM MILITARY FORCES.

IT CONSTITUTES AN ACT OF WAR, IN BLATANT VIOLATION OF ARTICLES 3 (C) AND 10 OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT ON ENDING THE WAR AND RESTORING PEACE, ARTICLES 1 AND 2 OF THE PROTOCOL ON THE CEASEFIRE, AND ARTICLES 3 AND 4 OF THE 13TH JUNE 1973 JOINT COMMUNIQUE.

5. THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM ON 26TH SEPTEMBER FORMALLY REQUESTED THAT THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION OF CONTROL AND SUPERVISION URGENTLY CARRY OUT AN ON-THE-SPOT INVESTIGATION OF THE CASE; IT IS READY TO PROVIDE THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION OF CONTROL AND SUPERVISION TEAMS WITH ALL FACILITIES, INCLUDING THOSE IN CONNECTION WITH THE SECURITY OF THE TEAM'S MEMBERS.

6. THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM ATTACHES A SPECIALLY IMPORTANT SIGNIFICANCE TO THIS VIOLATION OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT BY THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM. IT WISHES TO APPEAL TO THE PARTIES TO THE ACT OF THE PARIS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON VIET-

NAM TO PRESUADE THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM AND THE SELF-STYLED "PRG" TO PUT AN END TO SUCH ACTS, WHICH COULD HAVE SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES FOR PEACE IN INDOCHINA AS A WHOLE.

BEARING IN MIND THAT THE LE MINH CASE IS PART OF A SERIES OF SYSTEMATIC VIOLATIONS OF THE AGREEMENT PERPETRATED BY THE OTHER SIDE, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM ALSO WISHES THAT THE PARTIES COULD CONSULT AMONG THEMSELVES TO SEEK THE MOST EXPED-
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IENT AND EFFECTIVE MEANS OF PREVENTING ANY FURTHER DETERIORATION OF THE ALREADY UNSATISFACTORY SITUATION PREVAILING IN VIET-NAM.

7. THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM RESERVES ITS RIGHT TO TAKE APPROPRIATE MEASURES TO DEFEND ITS TERRITORY, ITS POPULATION AND ITS ARMED FORCES.

8. THE ACTING MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM AVAILS HIMSELF OF THIS OPPORTUNITY TO RENEW TO THE PARTIES TO THE ACT OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON VIET-NAM, SIGNED IN PARIS ON 2ND MARCH 1973, THE ASSURANCES OF HIS HIGHEST CON-
SIDERATION.

SAIGON

27TH SEPTEMBER 1973

END TEXT
APPLING

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NNN

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Draft Date: 29 SEP 1973
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TAGS: MARR, MILI, VN, VS
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